AVENGERS VS X-MEN

MARVEL

AVX

VS

ROUND 1



BENDIS

ROMITA JR.

HANNA

MARTIN

PURCHASE INCLUDES

FREE

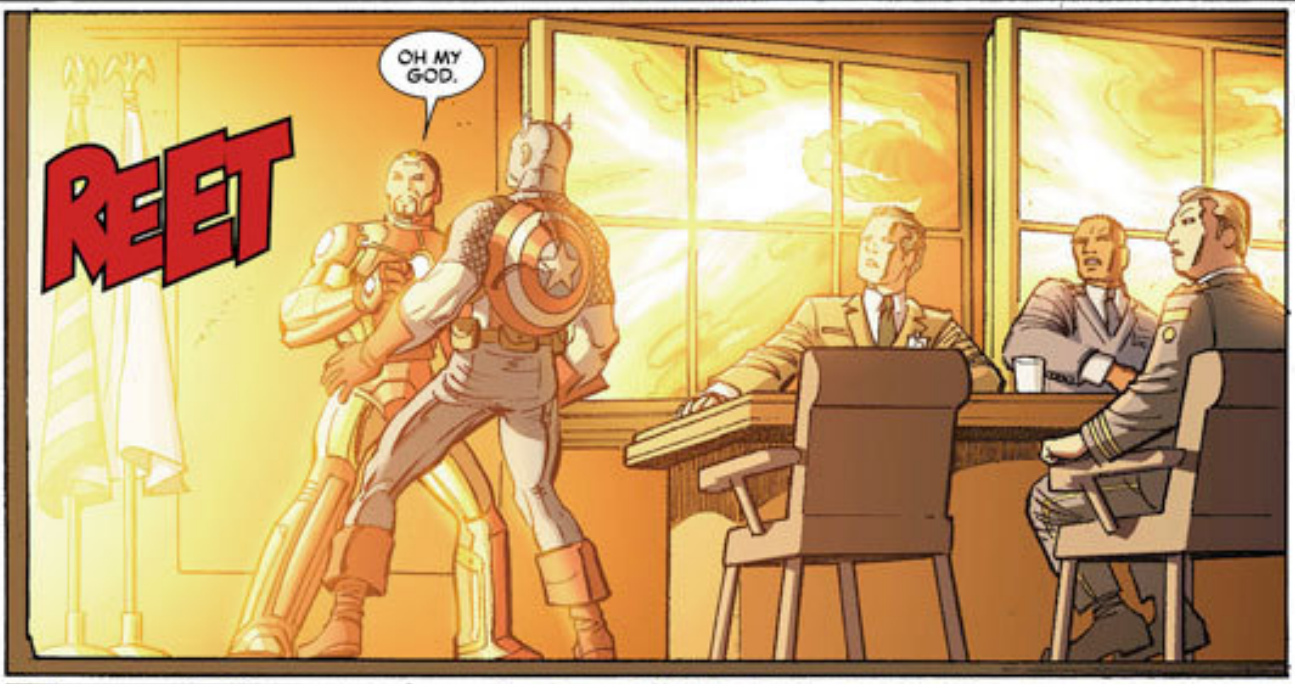
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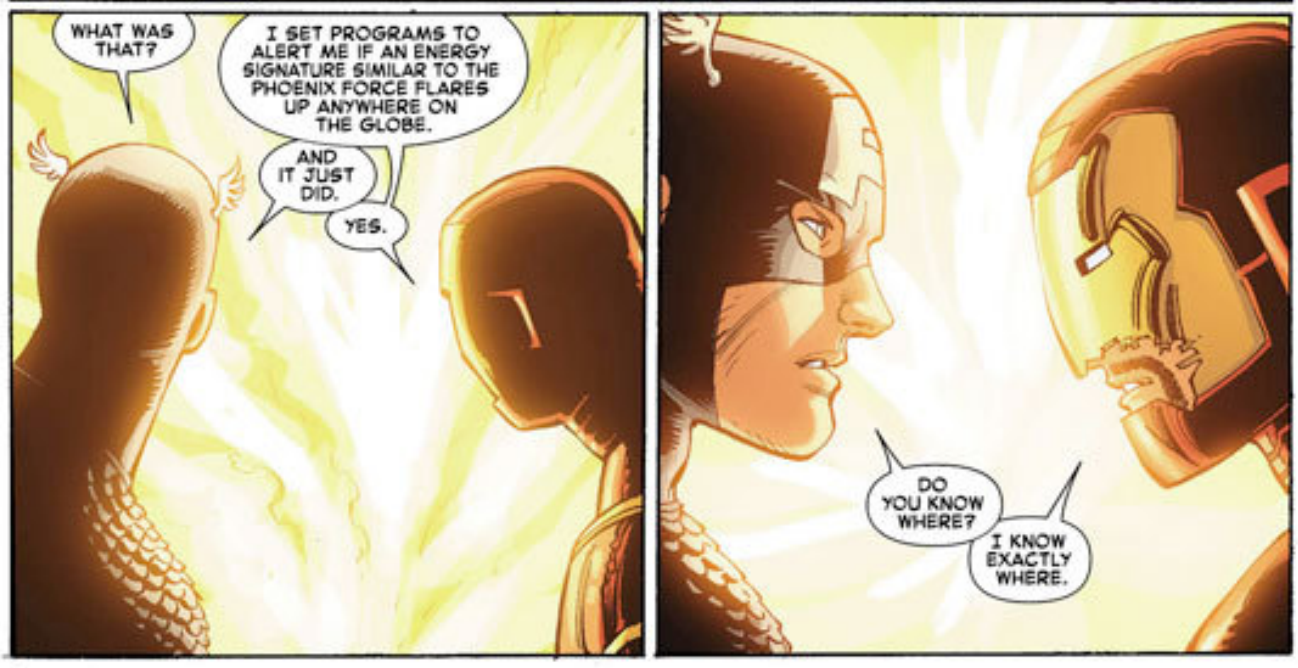
SEE ISSUE FOR DETAILS


GOOD MORNING, MR. PRESIDENT.
CAPTAIN AMERICA, MISTER STARK...
WHAT DO YOU HAVE FOR US?
I KNOW THAT SINCE THE SKRULL INVASION YOU'VE ASKED TO BE KEPT ABREAST OF ANY INTERSTELLAR SITUATIONS THAT WE COME ACROSS.
LAST NIGHT, WE INTERCEPTED THE ARRIVAL OF A MEMBER OF THE INTERGALACTIC NOVA CORPS.
HE CAME WITH A RATHER VAGUE, YET ALARMING, WARNING AND THEN LAPSED INTO A COMA.
THE SCORCH MARKS AND WEAR AND TEAR ON HIS UNIFORM LEAD US TO BELIEVE HE SURVIVED A CONFLICT WITH AN IMMENSE ENERGY SOURCE.
WE HAD BOTH THOR AND TONY HERE DO PERSONAL AND SATELLITE INTERSTELLAR RECON--
WHAT WE FOUND WAS, WELL, DISTURBING.

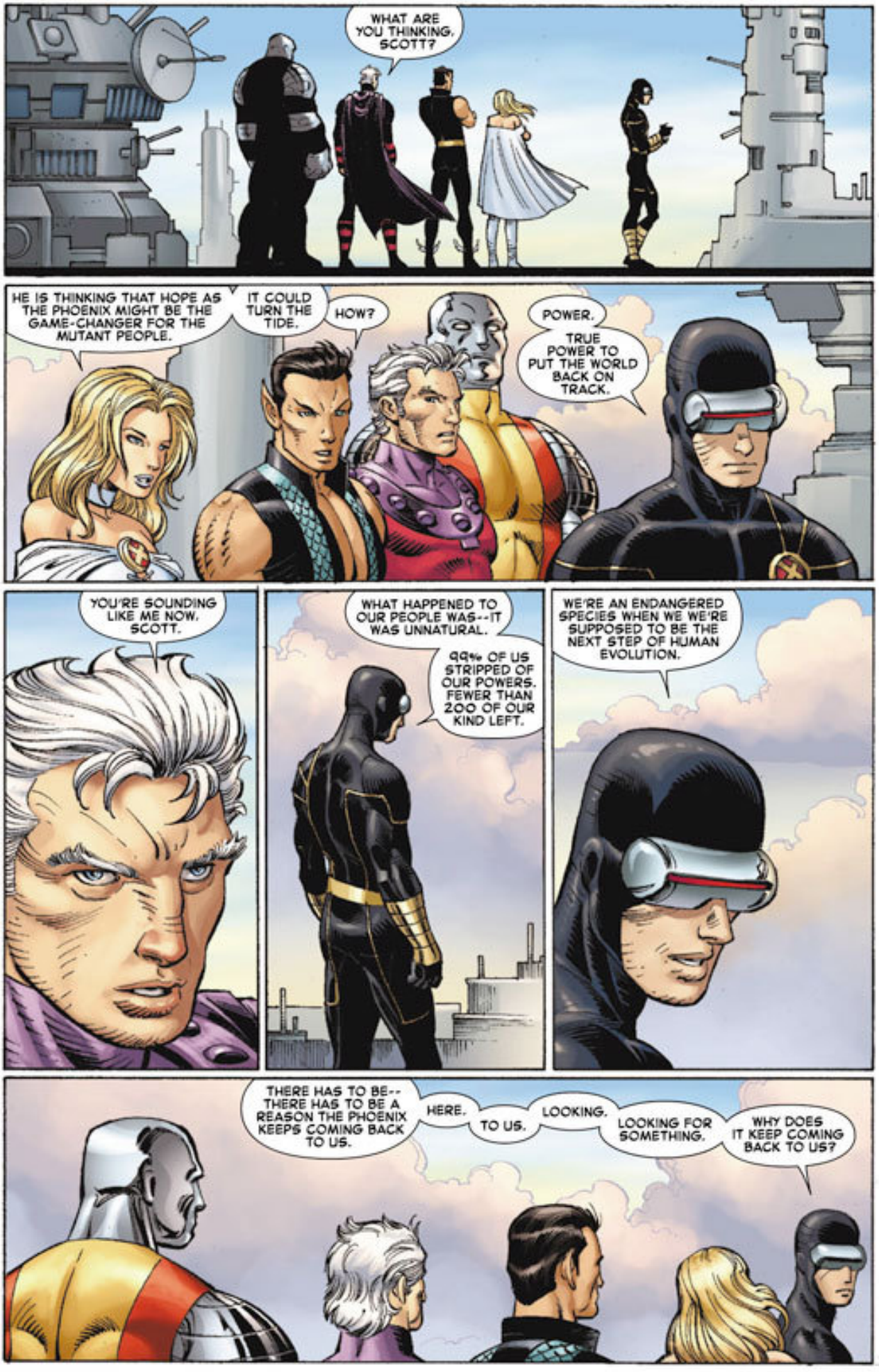

WE DISCOVERED AN ENERGY SIGNATURE ON NOVA'S UNIFORM.
AND AS LUCK WOULD HAVE IT, WE'VE ACTUALLY BEEN SEARCHING FOR THIS EXACT ENERGY SIGNATURE EVER SINCE THE JEAN GREY INCIDENT.
JEAN GREY OF THE X-MEN.
ONCE I LOCKED ONTO THE ENERGY SIGNATURE I WAS ABLE TO BACKTRACK NOVA'S ARC OF TRAVEL.
I HAVE RUN THE MATH ON THIS FIFTY DIFFERENT WAYS...
IT IS COMING HERE.
THE PHOENIX FORCE IS HEADED TOWARDS EARTH.
FOR THOSE IN THE ROOM UNFAMILIAR... IT'S A DESTRUCTIVE, PARASITIC FORCE OF COSMIC PROPORTIONS THAT LATCHES ON TO A BIOLOGICAL HOST--
IT THEN USES THAT VESSEL TO LAY WASTE TO THE ENVIRONMENT.
IF IT FINDS A HOST. WHEN IT FINDS ITS HOST--
WE NEED TO DEAL WITH THIS IMMEDIATELY.

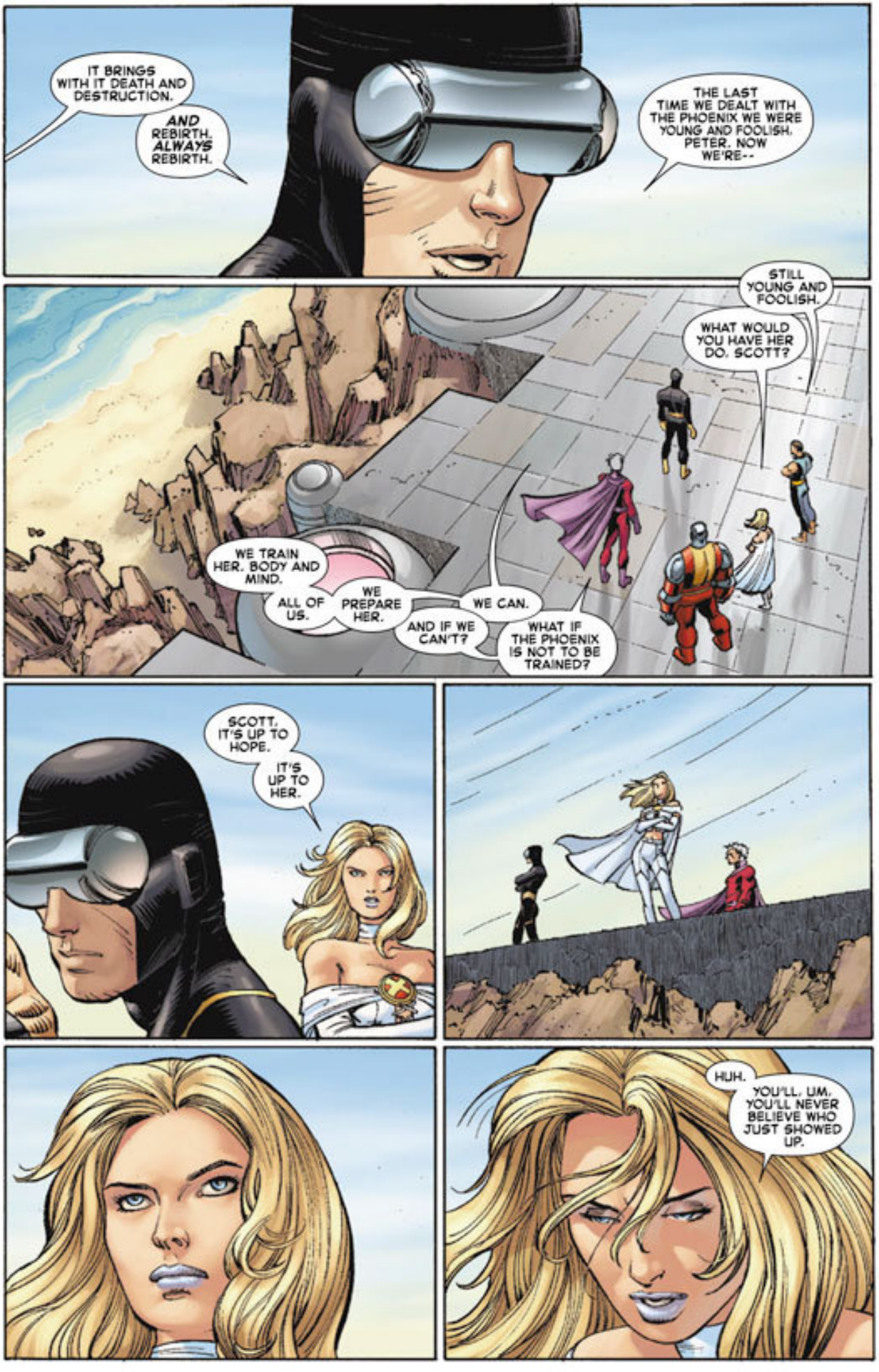

WE ARE SENDING A TEAM OF AVENGERS TO TRY TO INTERCEPT AND DESTROY THE PHOENIX BEFORE IT GETS HERE.
WHILE IT'S TRUE THAT THERE IS A--
WE SHOULD BE CLEAR, THOUGH, IT'S A SUICIDE MISSION.


REET
OH MY GOD.


WHAT WAS THAT?
I SET PROGRAMS TO ALERT ME IF AN ENERGY SIGNATURE SIMILAR TO THE PHOENIX FORCE FLARES UP ANYWHERE ON THE GLOBE.
AND IT JUST DID.
YES.
DO YOU KNOW WHERE?
I KNOW EXACTLY WHERE.


ARE YOU SURE?
WE'RE SURE.
THE PHOENIX.
YOU WERE THERE WHEN THE PHOENIX FIRST CAME TO EARTH.
JEAN GREY DID EVERYTHING SHE COULD TO TRY TO CONTAIN IT BUT, EVENTUALLY, ALL SAID AND DONE... SHE HAD TO KILL HERSELF TO STOP IT.
KILL HERSELF.
AND IT DIDN'T EVEN WORK.
IT'S COMING TO EARTH. BUT WHERE?
I KNOW WHERE IT'S GOING.
EVERYONE IN THE MUTANT COMMUNITY KNOWS WHERE IT'S GOING.
THEN I NEED SCOTT SUMMERS TO WORK WITH US. I NEED THE X-MEN AND THE AVENGERS TO WORK--
THIS THING KILLED SUMMERS' GIRL AND WITH IT ANY CHANCE HE HAD AT ANY SORT OF HAPPINESS.
THIS THING'S COMING BACK? HE'S GOING TO HAVE AN AGENDA.
AND HE WON'T EVEN SEE IT THAT WAY.
I KNOW HIM. HE DON'T EXACTLY LET GO OF THINGS.
THEN CAN I COUNT ON YOU AND THE SCHOOL--?
I MADE THIS SCHOOL TO KEEP THESE KIDS OUT OF THE FIGHTING.
CAN I COUNT ON YOU?


WHAT ARE YOU THINKING, SCOTT?
HE IS THINKING THAT HOPE AS THE PHOENIX MIGHT BE THE GAME-CHANGER FOR THE MUTANT PEOPLE.
IT COULD TURN THE TIDE.
HOW?
POWER.
TRUE POWER TO PUT THE WORLD BACK ON TRACK.
YOU'RE SOUNDING LIKE ME NOW, SCOTT.
WHAT HAPPENED TO OUR PEOPLE WAS--IT WAS UNNATURAL.
99% OF US STRIPPED OF OUR POWERS. FEWER THAN 200 OF OUR KIND LEFT.
WE'RE AN ENDANGERED SPECIES WHEN WE WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE THE NEXT STEP OF HUMAN EVOLUTION.
THERE HAS TO BE-- THERE HAS TO BE A REASON THE PHOENIX KEEPS COMING BACK TO US.
HERE.
TO US.
LOOKING.
LOOKING FOR SOMETHING.
WHY DOES IT KEEP COMING BACK TO US?


IT BRINGS WITH IT DEATH AND DESTRUCTION.
AND REBIRTH. ALWAYS REBIRTH.
THE LAST TIME WE DEALT WITH THE PHOENIX WE WERE YOUNG AND FOOLISH, PETER. NOW WE'RE--
STILL YOUNG AND FOOLISH.
WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE HER DO, SCOTT?
WE TRAIN HER. BODY AND MIND.
ALL OF US.
WE PREPARE HER.
WE CAN.
AND IF WE CAN'T?
WHAT IF THE PHOENIX IS NOT TO BE TRAINED?
SCOTT, IT'S UP TO HOPE.
IT'S UP TO HER.
HUH.
YOU'LL, UM, YOU'LL NEVER BELIEVE WHO JUST SHOWED UP.




WHAT IS CAPTAIN AMERICA *DOING* HERE?
YEAH, REALLY.
HE'S HERE FOR YOU, HOPE.


WHAT?
CAN YOU HEAR THEM, EMMA?
SCOTT CAN HANDLE IT, PETER.
STAY BACK HERE.
THERE'S NO NEED TO RAMP THIS UP.


I KNOW THE CAPTAIN BETTER THAN ALMOST ANYONE...
IF HE IS HERE, IT'S ALREADY, AS YOU SAY, RAMPED UP.
TO BE CONTINUED IN AVENGERS VS. X-MEN #1
ON SALE APRIL 2012